



# Special Education Programs

## SPED PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### Welcome Stacey Meyer!

Please help us welcome Stacey Meyer. Stacey will be responsible for the alternate assessment, indicators 3 & 8, and region 4. Stacey was previously a behavior specialist for Head Start and has experience as a special education teacher in SD. She brings a lot of expertise to the state special education programs team and we are looking forward to working with her.

### Parent Surveys

A requirement of the U.S. Department of Education is to survey parents of children receiving special education services. Districts are asked each year to give a letter, survey and prepaid mailing envelope to the parent of each student receiving services in your district. They may be given out at each IEP meeting, parent/teacher conferences or mailed to each family any time during the 2018-2019 school year. It is up to each district when and how the surveys are disseminated.

A parent with more than one child receiving services will need to fill out a survey for each of their children separately.

Parents need to complete and **return the surveys by May 31, 2019**. If you should need more copies or you are in need of a Spanish version, please contact Special Education Programs at 773-4257. Or districts can provide parents the links to the online surveys. Links are provided below.

[www.surveymonkey.com/s/Q6JW6HJ](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Q6JW6HJ) (English), and

[www.surveymonkey.com/s/MJNWNVJ](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MJNWNVJ) (Spanish)

## DOE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**Report Educational Structure changes.** Districts are required to submit the annual Verification of Educational Structure form by March 1. The form covers changes for the 2019-20 school year. Changes that must be reported include: closed schools, new schools, district/school name changes, grade span changes, etc. If no changes are needed, please check the box next to "No changes to report for any school within district." It is important that the Educational Structure information matches with your student data software, so please coordinate with the appropriate staff (superintendents, technology directors, Infinite Campus contacts, etc.) Questions? Contact:

[Jennifer.RattlingLeaf@state.sd.us](mailto:Jennifer.RattlingLeaf@state.sd.us) or (605) 773-4703.

Abilities Dedication  
Acceptance  
Inclusion Evolving  
Independence Access  
Special Individual Success  
Unique Education  
Accommodating Integration  
Hope Achieve  
Opportunity Challenges  
Participation  
Understanding

### SPED STAFF:

Linda Turner, Director

Wendy Trujillo, Assistant Director

Rebecca Cain, Program Specialist

Angel Corrales, Data Manager

Melissa Flor, Program Specialist

Jodi Berscheid, 619 Coordinator

Stacey Meyer, Program Specialist

Beth Schiltz, Program Specialist

Brandi Gerry, Program Specialist

Kristin Jerome, Secretary

### Regional Representative List

**Contact: 605.773.3678**

### NEXT SPED DIRECTOR CALL:

February 19, 2019 - 10am CST

Connect through Adobe Connect:

<https://taese.adobeconnect.com/sdta>

Teleconference Line: 888-387-8686

Participant code: 747 784 2775

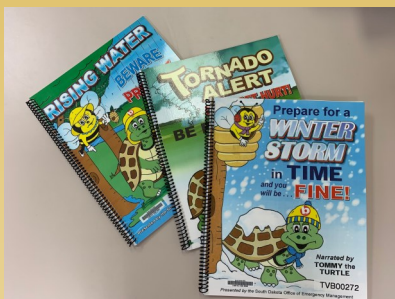
### Agenda Items:

- ◆ Accommodations
- ◆ Indicator 7 and 11/12
- ◆ Parent Surveys
- ◆ Accountability

**REMINDER -NO CALL IN MARCH**

## SPED PROGRAM FEATURE PRESENTATION

### BRAILLE AND TALKING BOOKS



South Dakota Braille and Talking Book Library (SDBBTL) has a collection of about 250 books with both print and Braille (Twin Vision). These are all children books.

Recently SDBBTL had three emergency preparedness books printed to assist children in knowing what to do in case of a winter storm, tornado, and rising water. These books are available for checkout at the State Library Braille and Talking Books.

SD State Library  
800 Governors Drive  
Pierre, SD 57501-2294

SD Toll-Free Number:  
1.800.423.6665

Local Number:  
605.773.3131

Website: [library.sd.gov/BTB](http://library.sd.gov/BTB)

See attached flyer for more information.

## FEDERAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced today that the U.S. Department of Education will launch an initiative to address the possible inappropriate use of restraint and seclusion in our nation's schools. The Office for Civil Rights (OCR), in partnership with the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), will oversee this proactive approach which will protect students with disabilities by providing technical assistance and support to schools, districts, and state education agencies, and strengthen enforcement activities.

See Press Release here:

<https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-announces-initiative-address-inappropriate-use-restraint-and-seclusion-protect-children-disabilities-ensure-compliance-federal-laws>

## SPED PROGRAMS STAFF HIGHLIGHT



**Jodi Berscheid**

619 Coordinator, Region 5 and 6 Representative

Indicators 6, 7, 11, & 12

Email: [jodi.berscheid@state.sd.us](mailto:jodi.berscheid@state.sd.us)

Phone: 605.773.2594

I grew up in Aberdeen and have lived in Pierre for 20 years. I was always involved in schools growing up since my mom was a teacher's aide and a computer teacher. I knew even back then I had a vision of going into some sort of education. I spent many days and nights babysitting young children. Eventually I went out east as a nanny before going to college.

I graduated from SDSU with an Early Childhood Education degree. (Back then it was called Home Economics) I have worked at various programs with children birth to age 13. My biggest passion when moving to Pierre was working for and being involved with Oahe Child Development Center (Head Start) for 20 years. Working with young children and their families always gave me a sense of accomplishment.

I started at the Department of Education in August of 2018 and have really enjoyed the challenge of learning new rules and regulations regarding children with special needs. I consider myself a "data" nerd and feel this is the perfect place to work with preschool data.

I have been married to an avid hunter and golfer for 22 years and we have three sons, 15, 18, and 21. We also have two 7-month old Golden Retriever puppies, an 11 yr old Golden and a cat. Never a dull moment in our house.





## DOE RESOURCES

New to SD-STARS is a collection of reports for Indicator 7 Preschool Outcomes. Special education members and the SD-STARS team worked collaboratively to develop these reports which allow for districts to better monitor outcomes, identify areas to improve programming, and show growth in statewide preschool outcomes.

Each report provides the total and percentage of children who fell within the five categories for progress of each outcome. They will help district answer questions such as 'What are the results of this outcome report?', 'Are child outcomes improving or declining in my district?', and 'Did my district meet the target summary?'

Please note that the 17-18 data in SD-STARS is not the same as the federally reported data in the SPP/APR. Why?

- The process used for developing the SPP report is only based off BDI data using the existing process.
- The current SPP expires this year so we have decided to begin using the new process when the SPP is rewritten.
- The new process used in the 17-18 SD-STARS report will be implemented for the 18-19 data.
- 17-18 SD-STARS reports will be released February 19th so districts can begin reviewing their results and making decisions on improvement.

SD-STARS login and newsletters are available at:

<https://doestars.sd.gov/login.aspx>

- Please see the PD section for the upcoming webinar on the Preschool Outcomes Reports.

Contact [Jodi.Berscheid@state.sd.us](mailto:Jodi.Berscheid@state.sd.us) if you have questions.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

(Click on the titles to go to the registration site)

### **2019 Special Education Conference.**

March 19-20, Deadwood, SD.

Registration is now open!

### **2019 Summer Institute**

Building Quality Lives...

Living. Learning. Working

June 13-14, 2019

Arrowwood Resort at Cedar Shores, Oacoma, SD

The Summer Institute provides high school special educators and directors valuable information regarding transition to adulthood issues for students with disabilities. Continuing credits and graduate credits pending.

More details coming soon!

### **Catch the Wave**

Catch the wave is a one-day conference designed specifically for high school students who have a disability and are considering post secondary education at a college or technical institute. This event is for students, parents, special educators, school counselors, and any other interested parties. A \$5 per person registration is required. Register by contacting the [TSLP Representative](#) sponsoring the event.

- Feb 20—Sinte Gleska U; Mission—Dave
- Mar 28—SDSU, Brookings—Bev
- Apr 2—BHSU, Rapid City—Dave
- Apr 3—NSU, Aberdeen—Cindy
- Apr 10—MTI, Mitchell—Jenny

### **SD-STARS Webinar: Preschool Outcomes Reporting**

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

2:00-3:00 p.m. (CST)

This webinar will be an introduction to the three new reports for Indicator 7. Learn how to find and read the reports, what the reports are saying, and what to do with the data once you have the results.

### **Save the Date:**

### **2019 MTSS Summer Conference**

June 11-12, 2019

Arrowwood Resort at Cedar Shores, Oacoma, SD

Day one of this year's conference will feature Dr. Terry Scott. [Click here](#) to watch one of Dr. Scott's previous trainings

Day two will feature Colleen Yasenchok from the 95% group. [Click here](#) for a short clip of Susan Hall and Colleen working together.

Registration for the MTSS conference will be available in March. Please contact [Rebecca.cain@state.sd.us](mailto:Rebecca.cain@state.sd.us) with any questions.